Home Health Telehealth Services

What is the Service?

Telehealth allows for the monitoring of a client's health status remotely via equipment, which transmits data from the client's home to the client's home health agency. The purpose of providing telehealth services is to assist in the effective management and monitoring of clients whose medical needs can be appropriately and cost-effectively met at home through the frequent monitoring of data and early intervention. This service is provided under the Home Health Benefit through agencies that have opted to provide the telehealth service.

Who is eligible?

All Medicaid eligible clients who meet the following criteria:

Client must receive Home Health services from provider who as opted to provide telehealth services. Client must have one or more of the following diagnoses:

- o Congestive Heart Failure
- o Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- o Asthma
- o Diabetes

Client must require frequent and on-going monitoring/management of their disease

Client's home environment must be compatible for the use of the equipment.

Client or caregiver must be willing and able to comply with the self vital-sign monitoring.

What services are available?

Frequent and ongoing self-monitoring of clients through equipment left in the client's home which is designed to measure the common signs and symptoms of disease exacerbation before a crisis occurs allowing for timely intervention and symptom management.

Where are services available?

In the client's residence via a participating home health agency

What does it cost?

There is no copayment for Home Health Telehealth Services

How does an individual or family access Home Health Telehealth Services?

A client's primary medical provider must order telehealth and the client must be admitted to or already in the care of a home health agency with the necessary equipment.

Are telehealth and telemedicine the same thing?

No. Telemedicine is the term used when a medical provider "sees" a client through the use of internet connections. This technology is typically used when a client needs to see a medical specialist, but there is no acceptable specialist in the client's service area. Telehealth is the monitoring of client's vital-signs by their Home Health nurse through electronic submission of the vital sign information from the client's residence to the client's Home Health agency.

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